

**BRISBANE RUGBY LEAGUE
REFEREES'
ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED**



Integrity | Knowledge | Life

HANDBOOK 2020

For all correspondence please contact the Association's Secretary:

The Secretary PO Box 6261 FAIRFIELD GARDENS QLD 4103

Email Address: secretary@brlrefs.com.au

Phone: 0400 280 881

Website: <http://www.brlrefs.com.au>

Facebook: [@BrisbaneRugbyLeagueRefereesAssociationInc](https://www.facebook.com/BrisbaneRugbyLeagueRefereesAssociationInc)

For all Game Matters, Reports, Login, Availability contact Operations:

Email Address: operations@brlrefs.com.au

Phone: 0430 425 569

Deadlines

Saturday 9pm (Fri and Sat games)

Sunday 9pm (Sunday games and Availability)

Links:

Player Dismissals: <http://brlrefs.com.au/dismissal-returns/>

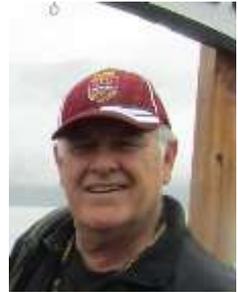
MODS Login (Availability):

<https://brisbane.rlreferees.com/index.php?Action=members>

Rugby League Brisbane: <https://www.rugbyleaguebrisbane.com.au/clubs>

Presidents Message

Welcome aboard - you have just become a valued member of the largest Rugby League Referees' Association in Australia, most likely, the world. We are pleased to have you as a member and anticipate you will find refereeing to be a fulfilling pastime. With time and experience, you will be able to officiate in games played at many different levels.

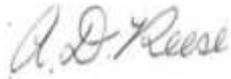


Your Association has several Members who have started where you are now and with the right dedication, they now officiate at the highest levels of the game – the NRL, State of Origin and International matches. If you have the desire and the skills to get to the top, we aim to give you every opportunity to fulfil your passion. Refereeing can be a very satisfying pursuit – now it is all up to you and the effort you put in to achieve the best Match Official you possibly can be

As a member of our Association, you will work closely with the Association and your peers officiating in games from Under 7s through to Senior competitions. Throughout the season, you will be viewed and developed by our accredited Coaching Match Officials (CMOs) who will provide you with valuable guidance as you gain on-field experience and move up through the grades. Teaming this with your attendance at Lectures and Fitness sessions will ensure you can gain the most from the experience of being a Match Official.

The Management Committee represents every Member and we always welcome feedback – whether it be negative and positive so that we can make the right decisions for you and your fellow members. If ever you require any support, please feel free to contact any member of the MC (contact details available in this booklet) and they'll provide you with the relevant assistance.

I'm sure you will appreciate, refereeing is a combination of knowledge of rules and their correct application. Of course, there is much more to it that and it is incumbent on you to get involved with the Development sessions and join in with your peers so that you can learn from the best and grow your skills. Congratulations on taking the big step - I'm sure you will enjoy and develop into an integral part of the Rugby League community.



Alan Reese

President – 2020

BRLRA Contacts for 2020

President	Alan Reese	0419 280 881 president@brlrefs.com.au
Secretary	Cass Wylie	0400 280 881 secretary@brlrefs.com.au
Treasurer	Shaun McDonald	0418 879 792 treasurer@brlrefs.com.au
Member Liaison	Peter Gilson	0412 239 788 members.rep@brlrefs.com.au
Development Liaison	Matthew Sosimenko	0438 957 225 development.liaison@brlrefs.com.au
Facilities Manager	Jim Cox LM	0412 885 327 facilities@brlref0s.com.au
Operations	Scott Irvine	0430 425 569 operations@brlrefs.com.au

The 2020 Brisbane Rugby League Referees Association Management Committee would like to thank the following businesses for their support during the upcoming Rugby League season:

Platinum Sponsor



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Anytime fitness is Australia's largest fitness community and 1 membership, gives access to 500 clubs Australia wide.

Anytime Fitness has negotiated a special BRLRA deal of \$2 off the standard membership rates and a \$0 joining fee (saving of up to \$250 on membership) at all Anytime Fitness clubs in Brisbane. For more information please contact the secretary.

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Trudy Hill

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E: albanycreek@sportfirst.com.au



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Sandgate, Queensland, Australia
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Sharon Prudy
Shop 10 MT Gravatt Plaza Creek Rd Mt
Gravatt

P: 07 3343 9118

FB: @aandmeatsmtgravatt

Membership Requirements

To officiate any matches for Rugby League Brisbane, you must become a member of the Brisbane Rugby League Referees' Association. To be a member, you must have completed the following requirements prior to taking the field:

1. Complete the NRL registration online
2. Attend SEQ Accreditation update
3. Have paid membership fee
4. Provide availability
5. Valid Working with Children Card (Blue Card) (if over 18 years).

Membership Fee

The current membership fee is Fifty-five dollars (\$55) and includes registration and Insurance provided by the QRL

Life members are exempted from this membership fee and levies.

Junior Law referees may opt to pay their membership fee directly to the Association when they register. The members fee may also be paid on the behalf of a Junior Law referee by a club they register through. Please check with your club referee coordinator to see what the arrangements are as they vary from club to club.

Membership fees due on the 1st October for the following year. Members may opt to have this deducted via their end of season pay (i.e. if no request

is made, the fee is not deducted). Otherwise, a member will have to renew membership via online payment when registering or pay the Association directly via cash or into the Association bank account.

Junior law members who are allocated games and non-active members as coaches will be subject to a membership fee. Membership fees can be prepaid at the end of season, provided they have enough funds to do so. A form is provided during September of each year for pre-payment.

Member Levies

Member levies are deductions taken off your total match payments. The levies applied are as followed:

1. **Annual Levy:** Currently set at one hundred dollars and fifty (\$150). For all international referees, this will be a deduction in referee and coach's end of year payments. This levy covers some administration and other association. Costs which include but not limited to the Annual Dinner, All Members nights and other Social Events (e.g. after development sessions) which are open to all members.
2. **Game Levy:** Funds the various costs to make the Association appointment, plus also funds coaching and development activities for referees such as coaching reports. A levy is set by the Management Committee and is applied against all match payments. The current levy rate is 7.5%.
3. **Uniform and Gear Purchases:** All members are expected to pay for any purchases upfront either through the Gear Shop via cash, direct

deposit into the Association bank account (an invoice can be organised by the Treasurer) or via online through League-Net. Some amounts will be recouped via referees pays if there are amounts owing by a referee at the end of the season. Members may also opt to have a deposit deducted from their end of season pay for the following season's uniform purchases.

Match Payments

These games are allocated by the Brisbane Rugby League Referees Association Incorporated. All Members appointed to officiate in Games are paid on a per match basis less any member levies.

Match payments are paid either at the end of the season at the Annual General Meeting via cheque or via monthly EFT to your bank account. To request monthly payments please complete the following form: <http://brlrefs.com.au/payment-options/>. The treasurer will contact you for your account details.

At any time during the season, a member is struggling to make personal financial commitments; a fee advance is available. However, any fee advances require the approval of the Management Committee. Email the Secretary and stating the mitigating circumstances why the fee advance is required.

Match Payment Table

These are the current match payments for all games as set by QRL South-East Division. For all games these payments are required to be paid in their full amount (no minimum or maximum).

RLB Preseason Trials

Grade	Referee	Touch Judge
U/13 to U/14	\$20	\$10
U/15 to U/18	\$25	\$15
Opens	\$35	\$20
A Grade	\$70	\$25

RLB & Schools Competition Matches

Grade	Referee	Touch Judge
U/6 to U/9	\$15	\$15
U/10 to U/11	\$25	\$15
U/12	\$30	\$15
U/13 to U/14	\$35	\$16
U/15 to U/16	\$48	\$25
U/17 to U/18	\$55	\$28
Opens Schools	\$55	\$28
Opens	\$80	\$35
Reserve Grade	\$90	\$50
A Grade	\$140	\$50
Over 35's	\$60	-
Interchange	\$25	

SEQ Women's / Girls Competition Matches

Grade	Referee	Touch Judge
U13/ to U/14	\$29	\$13.30
U/15 to U/16	\$40	\$20.85
U17/ to U/18	\$45.80	\$23.30
Division 2 & 3	\$70	\$35
Division 1	\$90	\$50

University Competition Matches

Grade	Referee	Touch Judge
Tertiary League	\$80.00	\$45.00

Appointments

Referees are advised of their appointments via email and SMS and listed within **Member's only section** of the BRLRA website. The information within the website is only correct at the end of the weekend round. The information you will receive will contain all details of the game including grade, teams, time and venue. It is your responsibility to check for appointments if you know you are available. If you have not received appointments by Thursday evening or have received an appointment by mistake contact the Secretary.

If you must withdraw from any game for any reason, after you have been appointed, you must follow up in writing (i.e. email) to the Secretary immediately.

Only the games that the BRLRA has appointed you will be the ones paid by the Association at the end of the season. No member can referee any game in the Greater Brisbane area without being sanctioned by the QRL

South-East Queensland Divisions under any circumstances.

Refereeing non-sanctioned games will result in disciplinary actions as determined by the Management Committee.

Junior Law Members U/12's

Zone Coordinators in conjunction with club referee coordinators will allocate junior law members to these games. This is based on feedback received from reports by experienced referee coaches who watch games during the season.

The 2020 season it is proposed that this system will be extended to the Under 10s and 11s.

International Law Members

Senior and Junior Allocators will allocate members to games based on skill and experience level. This is based on feedback received from reports by experienced referee coaches who watch games during the season.

Game Cancellations

Any game cancellations, the referee will be emailed and/or SMS. If there is wet weather etc and you don't receive a message, please check the Rugby League Brisbane Website or contact Operations.

Match Day Standards

All grounds must meet basic standards and are approved by the South-East Queensland Division. At most grounds you should have separate change facilities however, this is not always the case.

Before you take the field, there must be:

1. Two Duty Officials. One MUST be your escort to and from the field.
2. A properly marked field.
3. Pads on the goal posts.
4. The playing area must be “fenced” off to keep spectators off the field.

After the game, the game sheet must be signed by the referee and any official touch judges. The sheet will be presented to you by the club game official.

Game Duration of Matches

Grade	Duration	Injury Time
U/13 to U/17	2 x 30 mins	Yes
U/18	2 x 35 mins	Yes
U21 & Opens	2 x 35 mins	Yes
Tertiary	2 x 35 mins	No
A Grade	2 x 40 mins	Yes
Over 35's	2 x 25 mins	Yes
SEQ Women's Div 1	2 x 35 mins	Yes
SEQ Women's Div 2 & 3	2 x 30 mins	Yes

BRLRA Uniform

The yellow colored jersey supplied by FI-TA is to be used on the field. The jersey must contain the QRL and BRLRA logos and sponsors:

- Black shorts as supplied by FI-TA also containing the above logos
- Long football black socks as supplied by the BRLRA
- Closed footwear – football styled tread is preferred
- All jewelry is to be removed (wedding rings and sports watch are permissible)
- Compression garments or skins must be black and must not extend below the elbow or knee or length of the playing sock and only the manufacture logo can be visible (see QRL Compression Garment Policy)



** Exemptions for medical or cultural can apply, please seek advice from the secretary.*

The official dress uniform is to be worn to and from games and any other official function (including update, courses and judiciary). Non-compliance may result in a fine; the Management committee has determined the fine will be \$70. Any gear purchased throughout the year is paid up-front upon collection. The Association passes the cost of gear from the supplier to the member.

Weekly Deadlines

If you need to advise of an incident during a match that requires a report to Rugby League Brisbane, please notify the BRLRA Secretary no later than 9pm, Saturday or Sunday as per normal deadlines.

Game Operations

Rugby League Brisbane Operations Manual covers all aspects of game management. However, it is important that if you approached about any aspect to operations i.e. game duration, procedures for games that have been called off etc is that you refer the person to the Operations Manual – *it is not your role as Referee to know the local league operations*. An edited version of the operations manual is available on the website.

Dismissals during Games

This only applies to games U/13's and upwards.

Once you have decided to dismiss a player during a match, you should:

- Call him out with his Captain, away from other players.
- Tell him that he is being sent from the field of play. Don't get involved in a debate with the player or the Captain.
- Ensure that the player leaves the playing area. The dismissed player is not allowed to sit with the reserves.

When dismissing a player, you should remain calm and be assertive, not

aggressive. Keep what you say to them brief. Don't enter any argument or have a debate.

Player dismissals do not apply in the Junior Law Game but if warranted a report can be submitted to Operations.

After Match at Ground

After the game, you must complete a *Referee's / On Field Incident Report*.

Take your time. In cases where you have another game immediately please complete the incident report before starting your second game. You can let the Duty Official know there may be a slight delay in the start of the second game. When completing the report, you must:

1. Accurately complete all of the match and player details. Get the Game Sheet from the Duty Official.
2. Check Player details from the sheet.
3. Tick the correct charge. If there is more than one charge against the Player, you must tick them separately on the Report.
4. Tick the charge on the Report
5. Rugby League Brisbane has specifically requested that when you fill out detailed report that that in order to determination of the Grading of the Penalty for all instances of:

15.1 (b) High Tackle - descriptive adjective such as Intentional, Reckless or Careless must be used.

15.1 (d) Dangerous Throw -the tackle must be described in relative terms of player safety i.e. hold in crotch, head into ground etc.

15.1 (f) Offensive or Obscene Language - the actual words allegedly spoken to be written in full.

6. Sign the Report and touch judge (if applicable) and print your full name/s under your signature.
7. Get the Duty Official to deliver the yellow copy to the player.

Upon completion, contact the Secretary and email or use the web page to forward the *Referee's / On Field Incident Report*.

The web page: www.brrefs.com.au/dismissal-returns can be accessed by your smartphone and the charge sheet can be also photographed and sent via the page.

It is important to contact the Secretary (phone/SMS) as sometimes email or web page can fail without the user knowing.

If you dismiss a player on a Touch Judges report, the Referee and the Touch Judge must put in a detailed written statement and it is the Referees duty to advise the Touch Judge where to send the report. You should also get the Touch Judge contact details and advise the appropriate League in your report these details. Fill out a *Referee's / On Field Incident Report* indicating that the player is sent off on a Touch Judge's report.

After Match at Home

Please prepare a clear written/typed report of the incident. This report is to contain detailed evidence to support the reason for the dismissal, as there is

no hearing unless the player appeals any suspension. The report should include the half and approximate time in that half that the incident occurred, the position on the field, if in your opinion it was a deliberate act, maybe careless or even a reflex action, or done with any intent and what, if any, medical attention the opposition player received. State where on the body the player was struck or kicked etc and whether it was a jab, a punch where he brought his arm back or a king hit.

Please also state any names of witnesses that could be called if a hearing takes place i.e. the touch judge, a CMO or even a ground/duty official. Include the jumper numbers of each player you saw involved in the incident as well as their name. Do not use terms like “looked like, maybe, possibly, I think,” but use words like ‘clearly saw, no doubt, obvious, deliberate, I had a clear and uninterrupted view”. Conversely if you are not 100% certain of what you saw then there is no need to tell mistruths.

Anyone reading the report should be able to form a clear picture in their mind of the whole incident. Under no circumstances are you to comment on previous incidents with a player outside of the match he was dismissed in and it is not our job to recommend what sentence a player should receive so please leave these out. It is helpful if you put your own contact details down and your availability to attend any night time hearings during the week. Upon completion, send this detailed report as well as copy of the *Referee's / On Field Incident Report* to the secretary

Attending Judiciary if required

You will be advised of any judiciary hearing by the league. Please ensure your contact details are correct. If you are required to attend Judiciary, make sure you are in Association formal dress (Polo Shirt) as well as copies of all reports.

Members under the age of 18 years of age are entitled to have an adult attend judiciary to assist and as support. Please contact the Secretary for any assistance in this regard.

On-field Incidents during the Game

Players can make a complaint to the referee about on-field incidents which have escaped detection of the Referee or Touch Judges. Normally these incidents are likely to be biting or eye gouging.

When making a complaint the player must identify the player being accused. If the player making the allegation follows through with the complaint, the incident is referred to the Judiciary like a normal case. The referee is required to attend.

When a player makes a complaint, the procedure to be followed is:

1. Call out both the player making the allegation and the player he accuses.
2. Explain that a complaint has been made and the nature of the complaint.
3. Examine the player making the complaint for evidence.
4. Explain that the matter will be put on report if the person making the complaint follows up the complaint with the Referee within 20 minutes of the completion of the game.

5. After the game, ask the duty official to approach the accusing team to see if they are willing to pursue it.
6. If followed up, complete a *Referee's / On Field Incident Report*
7. If the complaint is not followed up, the matter is ended.

Remember you cannot penalise this incident on field as you did not see it.

In modified games if you believe there are reasons for a complaint to be made regarding player behaviour or any other field incident, please approach the referee coordinator for advice.

Assault/Abuse of Referee

Fortunately, referees are usually treated with a reasonable amount of respect. Unfortunately, sometimes situations arise where a referee may be assaulted or fears of being assaulted. If you are in a situation in which you fear an assault, or are assaulted or subject to abuse:

- Get out of the situation as quickly as possible. It is not cowardly to retreat. If the incident occurs during the game, terminate the game immediately;
- **Do not retaliate;**
- Seek assistance from the Duty Official;
- Get any information regarding the identity of the person, if not a player (if possible)
- Contact the Secretary or President **ASAP**

You will be required to submit a report to the Management Committee, so it can have it forwarded to the relative league.

Development of Referees

The Coaching and Development Manager is responsible for the training and development of members.

Development sessions occur on a regular basis and are advertised on the BRLRA Website calendar and by regular emails to members.

Ground Locations

A full list of clubs can be accessed from the Rugby League Brisbane Website:

<https://www.rugbyleaguebrisbane.com.au/clubs>